

fourth year in Congress. I have always been proud to call them my community members, but sadly never so proud as I have been in the last 3, 4 weeks, as they prepared for this horror that we all hoped would not come.

Just a few days ago, I was with the Ukrainian organizations and volunteers at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Abington, many of whom still have close family and friends in Ukraine. And, in fact, the children there made me this beautiful headband; made for me and for many others. What was fascinating that day is everyone was coming together, community coming together—not just Ukrainian Americans, but others—to say we will not stand for the horror that is going on. The globe, the world will not stand for the atrocities, the murderous brutality of Mr. Putin on sovereign people.

One woman who started a donation drive was amazed. She went to U-Haul and bought 30 boxes, and she wondered if they would be able to fill those 30 boxes with donations of humanitarian food, medicines, blankets, clothing, and others. Well, I think there were about three container trucks later. The place was teeming with people, volunteers of all stripes, towering with boxes of donations and people furiously and very hopefully sorting those things. It was an amazing snapshot of what I already knew about the Ukrainian-American community. They are leaders in Montgomery County. They are leaders in this country. They are leaders we are watching and witnessing in this world. Their generosity and strength, their determination is extraordinary, and we cannot imagine the pain and suffering as they watch their homeland, they watch their family, their neighbors, their friends struggling with this set of atrocities.

No amount of warnings from the Biden administration and our intelligence could have prepared us for the sheer brutality and devastation we have seen. Mr. Putin expected that he would quickly topple Ukraine's young democracy. He was wrong, and he will be forever wrong, as we have watched in all the resilience and the heroism of the Ukrainians, especially President Zelensky.

Over the weekend, President Zelensky got on a call with Members of Congress, both House and Senate, Republicans and Democrats, hundreds of us. What a man of determination and dignity. I took notes. He said to us: We just want peace. We want to hold and kiss our children. We want to go to work. We want to sip coffee at our kitchen table. We want to be neighbors with the Russians.

What bravery. What dignity. And yet this war has brought on him and us a humanitarian crisis, with the number of people fleeing Ukraine already exceeding 2 million. But death, displacement, and destruction must not be forever. We must provide necessary aid, weapons, medicines, food, fuel, refuge

in a bipartisan universal way. I know we all in Congress will continue to do all we can.

Ukrainians worldwide, please know we are here for you. You are welcome here. God bless Ukraine.

The U.N. has recorded 406 civilian casualty deaths. Sadly, I think it will be far more than that. An 18-month-old boy was killed in his home after he was shelled by Russian forces; 13 civilians killed in an air strike on the town of Makariv, their bodies recovered from the rubble; a 26-year-old woman killed while attempting to deliver supplies to a dog shelter in Buka; eight people killed during Russian shelling while trying to flee the town of Irpin—children, mothers, civilians; a preschool in northeastern Ukraine hit while civilians took shelter, killing three of them, including a child and wounding another.

□ 2120

These tragedies are inspiring a Nation and the many women in it, and I applaud the women of Ukraine fighting to keep their country free and the women of Russia protesting and speaking out against Mr. Putin, even at the risk of imprisonment and worse.

I think of Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.N., whom we have met with this past summer and this last week—what a tower of strength; and Julia, a teacher and volunteer who wept and said, "I just want to live in our country, and that is all," as she waited to be deployed to fight Russian troops.

Putin will forever be a pariah. The globe recognizes him for the murderous, brutal dictator that he seeks to be.

Yet, I have hope. I have hope in the Ukrainian people and the globe that has recognized the horror that is this series of war crimes.

Representative SPEIER, thank you for heading this tonight. Slava Ukraini. Slava Heroyam. God bless Ukraine.

Ms. SPEIER, Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) for her outstanding remarks.

Madam Speaker, there are many people to thank. There are many organizations to thank.

When we look at who is bringing shelter and aid to the Ukrainian people now, the nonprofit organizations around the world, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Rescue Committee, Plan International, Save the Children, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, World Food Program, and World Health Organization. To all of them, we say thank you.

Let's be clear: This is Putin's war. He will pay the price. His vicious, premeditated attempt of genocide of the Ukrainian people will not be tolerated.

Tonight, I want to close with this photograph of Ukrainian women in uniform. They are fighting for their country, their future, their children, and truly for freedom around the world.

Madam Speaker, I yield back.

#### TAKING PUTIN'S WORDS AND DEEDS SERIOUSLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. BUCK) for 30 minutes.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I am here to have a discussion with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), my good friend, about President Putin's actions in Russia.

Putin is waging an unprovoked and unjustified war on Ukraine. Over the past 2 weeks, his attacks have become increasingly violent. The attacks have become more severe, even targeting residential areas.

At the same time that Putin is engaged in a bloody war with tragic consequences for the people of Ukraine, he is also engaged in a propaganda war. His disinformation campaign is geared toward: first, his own people, who have largely been kept in the dark about the atrocities of this war against Ukraine; and, second, the entire world.

In justifying his war to the world, Putin has relied on the ridiculous claim that he is the appointed person to denazify Ukraine.

The Russian Government released a statement on March 1 through the Russian Embassy in Canada, stating: "Russia continues its special military operation to demilitarize and denazify Ukraine. The Russian army does not occupy Ukrainian territory and takes all measures to preserve the lives and safety of civilians. The strikes are targeting military facilities only. . . . The tasks to clear Ukraine of Nazism . . . will be accomplished."

Congressman ROY, there is a lot of evidence that Putin's army is targeting civilian targets.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Colorado (Mr. BUCK) for this important time talking about the horrors that have been inflicted upon people by Vladimir Putin. Specifically, we know how much damage he has been causing to the people of Ukraine.

More than 1.7 million—in fact, I saw a graphic just before I came to the floor—2 million Ukrainians have been displaced, have been fleeing Ukraine for other countries nearby.

Over 2,000 civilians have been killed, according to reports. But, obviously, we don't know the extent of the damage and the carnage. Thirty-eight children have been killed that we know of, but there are probably more, and 70 wounded that we know of.

Madam Speaker, \$10 billion in damages to Ukrainian infrastructure, probably far more than that; 200 schools, 34 hospitals, and 1,500 residential homes destroyed—these are the basic numbers just coming in. We know they are going to be far greater.

On Saturday, a family with two children, a teenage son and a daughter who appeared to be 8 years old, and several

other civilians were killed by a Russian military strike at an evacuation crossing point in a Kyiv suburb as they were trying to flee Ukraine.

Ukraine has required men to stay to defend their country, forcing families to make the unthinkable decision. One Ukraine woman said: "It is very hard to have your husband stay home. You have to choose: Save the kids or stay with him."

I have heard from friends and read dozens of tragic stories in the past few days through friends of mine in Austin, Texas, who have gone to Ukraine to help people. I have been in touch, through them, with an orphanage in Kyiv with somewhere upward of 50 children, up to 14 infants, up near the suburbs of north Kyiv.

They are struggling. They are lacking food. They are lacking the materials to survive. They are trying to figure out how to get to a place where they can get to help.

We have actors on the ground trying to help them, but they can't get to them because of what Putin is doing and not really heeding the calls for helping people be able to get out of harm's way.

Right now, these children are completely helpless. A nurse from Lutsk in western Ukraine who fled to Poland said the decision on whether to stay or go was not instantaneous. When the Russian army first invaded eastern Ukraine, she and her husband decided to wait: "We were hoping that the situation wouldn't develop into a full-scale invasion. But as hours passed, it became obvious that things were only getting worse."

The next morning, she and her 2-year-old son, Tymy, got in a car and headed for Poland, where they waited 10 hours at the border. She said saying good-bye to their husband and father, who stayed in Ukraine to build barricades, was heartbreaking.

She and her son were hosted by a Polish family, Robert and Hana, an English language university instructor and a human resources supervisor, who live with their two children. They made it clear that their hospitality didn't have an end date.

Alex in Kyiv is helping his friends evacuate. Sergei in Rivne is setting up shelters for his community and providing food and supplies. Peter in Zhytomyr packed his car yesterday and is currently taking his neighbors to Poland.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I think it is worthwhile to take a look at who this leader is.

Who is Vladimir Putin? He began his career, not surprisingly, Congressman, at the KGB. He came to power in 2000, winning the presidency after having served as a Secretary of the Security Council of Russia and as the Director of the Federal Security Service.

Putin served as President until 2008, when he was constitutionally prohibited from seeking a third term, but Putin had little regard for the Russian

Constitution. He orchestrated a maneuver in which one of his yes-men would be installed as the new President, and Putin would assume the role of Prime Minister.

After serving as Russia's top leader, but in the capacity of Prime Minister, Putin then did the unthinkable and ran again as President in 2012. With protests and allegations of mass fraud in his background, he assumed another 6-year term and then again ran in 2018.

Even more alarming, in April of last year, Putin signed into law a series of constitutional amendments that would permit him to run for President two additional terms, serving a total of 36 years.

Putin's regime has become increasingly totalitarian, and Putin himself has put his KGB background to use, employing Soviet-era repressions against the people of Russia.

□ 2130

He has cracked down on free speech, seized control of the media, and had his opponents and critics assassinated.

Congressman, I know you feel strongly about how President Putin has put his KGB background to use.

Mr. ROY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BUCK. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, we are seeing Putin's propaganda tactics, as we speak. The world is seeing it on full display. His regime is systematically shutting down the free flow of information surrounding this brutal war in Ukraine. The State run newspapers in Russia have been instructed to not use the words "invasion" or "war." Just days ago, Putin's regime shut off Facebook access in the country.

Now, again, whatever Russians are able to see what we are saying on the floor, this is the truth. This is the truth of what Vladimir Putin is doing to the truth and the dissemination of information of what is happening in Russia, what is happening to the people of Ukraine, not the propaganda you're hearing in Russia.

Just days ago, Putin's regime shut off Facebook, as I said. The Russian newspaper translated as "New Newspaper" has a brave, freedom-loving editor-in-chief Dmitry Muratov—he co-won last year's Nobel Peace Prize—who has been forced to remove all of the material on the newspaper's website related to Russia's aggression in the Ukraine.

Think about that. That is what is happening. This isn't new. It is his track record. He came to power because of a terrorist act that was directed at Russia's own people.

In 1999, three apartment buildings in Moscow, Dagestan, and Volgograd were bombed. Those bombings, allegedly the acts of Chechen terrorists, gave a pretext for going into Chechnya for a second war, thus solidifying support for Putin as head of the Security Council.

Since then, almost everyone who has raised questions about these bombings

or has attempted to investigate the cause of these bombings has been kicked out of Russia, imprisoned, or murdered.

Those are the facts. That is who Putin is.

During his more than two decades of ruling Russia, Putin has displayed a callous disregard for human life. He has engaged in murderous attacks on his political opposition.

In 2004, the Putin regime poisoned Ukrainian Presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko.

In 2006, there was the polonium killing in London of Alexander Litvinenko, a defector from Russia.

In 2009, Sergei Magnitsky was taken into police custody, beaten, deprived of medical care, and he died in jail.

In 2013, Boris Berezovsky was found in his home in the United Kingdom dead. Berezovsky had long been a critic of Putin, accused the Kremlin of orchestrating the killing of Alexander Litvinenko, who had been poisoned in 2006.

In 2015, Boris Nemtsov was shot four times in the back just a short distance from the Kremlin. He was another critic of Putin.

And in 2017, the world was horrified by the daylight shooting of Denis Voronenkov, who was murdered in Kyiv after renouncing his Russian citizenship and criticizing Vladimir Putin. That is the truth of Putin's brutality.

Mr. BUCK. And, Congressman ROY, I just want to go through one of these slides again, if I can. I don't know if you got a look at this, but this is the before and after. This is a man who left, went to England, was poisoned, and this is what he looked like before, and that is after he was poisoned with radioactive materials.

Mr. ROY. And how was he poisoned?

Mr. BUCK. Radioactive material. He was poisoned, and that is how he looks afterwards. Unbelievable that one human being can do this to another human being, much less a leader of a major nuclear power in the world.

Mr. ROY. Is there any disagreement on the intelligence that this is what occurred at the hands of Vladimir Putin's orders?

Mr. BUCK. Right. No disagreement in the world. And what is so significant is when Vladimir Putin says this is what is happening in Ukraine, who can believe him?

Mr. ROY. Right.

Mr. BUCK. In fact, you can pretty much go to Vegas and bet your money on the opposite of what this man says. If he is able to do something like this, one, he is a coward, and two, he is a monster.

During his more than two decades of ruling Russia, Putin has displayed a callous disregard for human life. As part of Putin's war on Chechnya, he ordered the destruction of Chechnya's capital Grozny. Tens of thousands of civilians were killed in this brutal assault.

In 2008, Putin waged another war, this time in Georgia, another part of

the former Soviet Union. The Georgian President during Putin's assault in 2008 had this to say in *The Wall Street Journal*, and, Congressman ROY, I want you to really hear this because it is so unbelievable how similar what the Georgian President said in 2008 is to the game plan that Putin has orchestrated in Ukraine.

Mr. ROY. Yes.

Mr. BUCK. "Long before its conventional assault on Georgia, Russia openly backed separatist militants—that sounds familiar—launched cyberattacks and used disinformation to meddle in the internal affairs of sovereign states. Initial intelligence reports of Russian forces entering Georgian territory didn't even cause enough concern to order Georgian military officials back from their holidays. . . .

"But in August 2008, under the auspices of securing the separatist enclave, Russia invaded my country. . . .

"Leaving aside the practical impossibility of Georgia attacking a nuclear power 100 times its size, the entirety of the conflict took place on internationally recognized Georgian territory. The Kremlin's claim that its land forces mobilized overnight in response to an emergency was absurd. Such an onslaught required careful preparation, especially given the mountainous terrain of the Russian-Georgian border."

And I think what is really important to point out here is that President Putin has used the exact same plan, the exact same formula down to the T, claiming that there are Russian-speaking people and he is trying to protect those people in Ukraine, down to the absurd claim that Ukraine is a Nazi government now. All these claims are made up, they are nonsense to try to justify in the minds of the Russian people what Putin is engaged in.

Mr. ROY. That is exactly right. And I want to take 1 minute because it merits repeating because we are sitting here in the United States of America in the protection of our great Republic miles away from what is happening in Ukraine, and it bears repeating that there are two million Ukrainians right now fleeing Ukraine, fleeing their homes. We fortunately haven't had to experience that sort of thing.

But two million people right now are fleeing their homes, dads and husbands staying behind in Ukraine, families fleeing, seeking shelter, thousands killed, we don't know how many, children killed, billions of dollars of damage, destroying crops, destroying infrastructure, taking over nuclear power plants.

And I just got a text, literally as I am standing here, from my friends in Austin, Texas—from the wife whose husband is currently now in Ukraine trying to help people—talking about the orphanage I talked about in northern Kyiv. She says 51 kids are trapped; 51 kids trapped.

Do you have kids? People around here, many of us have kids. Fifty-one kids trapped after orphanage bombed

and director killed. The director of the orphanage was killed. Running out of food. No heat or electricity. Cold front coming. Will freeze or starve if we can't get there soon. Fifteen infants. Special needs kids. Currently shelling of all civilian targets being perpetrated and carried out by Putin. The same Putin that killed a Ukrainian leader with nuclear poisoning.

This from my friend: We are pleading for someone to help us get to the children before it is too late. And we are trying. Anybody out there watching, we are trying to figure out how to get to this orphanage and get them to people who can help. But that is the product of Vladimir Putin. And if you are watching this, and if you are in Russia or if this clip gets to you and it isn't cut off by Putin and his thug leadership in Russia, this is the truth of Vladimir Putin. This is what he is doing to innocent people.

And he is lying to you that these children are being put up as somehow being a front and being put up to be put in harm's way. He is indiscriminately bombing. He is the cause of these children being in danger. He is the cause of this murder. He is the cause of thousands of people getting killed, millions getting displaced, billions in damage, and it is all because he is a thug and an autocrat, who is going after and killing innocent people.

□ 2140

Mr. BUCK. An immoral person does not wage a moral war, does not poison people, does not continue to commit the war crimes and the illegalities—murdering a political opponent just blocks away from the Kremlin. That kind of immoral person doesn't have the standing to talk to the world about what is going on in Ukraine.

I know, Congressman, you were a prosecutor. I was a prosecutor. When we had a criminal defendant who lied, that was a special treat, because we got to put witnesses on the stand, and we called it a false exculpatory. And Vladimir Putin has gone through his entire political career using false exculpatories; telling people one thing happened when, in fact, something else happened.

And the reason it is so important to point out false exculpatories is, it is a sign of guilt. And in this case, Vladimir Putin knows what he is doing is in violation of international law. He has committed numerous war crimes through his military; indiscriminately bombing civilian targets. And he is a war criminal, and he should be brought to justice.

But my question to you now is, Congressman, are we doing everything we can as a country to make sure that we bring this thug—as you put it—this animal who is violating international law, killing children, destroying billions of dollars worth of infrastructure in Ukraine. Are we, as Americans, are we, as the civilized world working with Western Europe, working with NATO,

are we doing everything we can to bring this man to justice and to stop the tragedy that is going on in Ukraine?

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, well, I appreciate my friend from Colorado's question. And I would note in your comparison as to our experience as Federal prosecutors, that there is no entity that is able to hold him to account in Russia because he is running the whole show as a dictator, and there is no free press.

In our country—as bad as the press can be—we at least hope that we can get the truth out through the vestiges of the First Amendment and the importance of the free press, no matter who is in the White House. Right?

Mr. BUCK. Yes.

Mr. ROY. Neither you nor I shied away from criticizing the former President of the United States, despite the fact he had an "R" after his name. Nor will we shy away from criticizing this President who has a "D" after his name. Why? Because we are Article I, and he is Article II.

And the Founders gave us a free press to say we are going to have the press holding all of us to account, and the separation of power so we can hold the President to account. There is none of that here.

Mr. BUCK. And one more thing, when the press holds us to account, we stand up. We may disagree with them. We may offer another version of the facts, but we don't shut down the press. We don't close their doors. We don't turn off the TV station when they call something a war. When they call a war a war, we don't shut them down. That is exactly what is happening in Russia right now.

Mr. ROY. And the most important thing that we can do, in my opinion, is do what we are doing right here. And I hope all my colleagues will do this. And I hope everybody will unite. And I hope the American free press will unite, and the worldwide free press will unite, to call this out for what it is—a war criminal killing innocents for sheer power and for sheer determination of what he wants for his own agenda, not for any kind of honorable reasons in defending his homeland.

Whatever he is telling you and the people of Russia that this is somehow an honorable defense of Russia, it is not. He is lying to you. He is killing innocent people in the name of your homeland. And you need to know that. And you need to know the truth. And you need to see what he is doing to people.

And we, in this country, need to continue to do more. And I know we are here to talk about Putin, and we are here to talk about this situation of holding him accountable. And I don't want to get too partisan here, but our country should have been doing more sooner.

We should have been listening to Zelensky. I have heard a whole lot of applause lately for Zelensky from my

colleagues on the other side of the aisle. But where were we last July when he was asking for help with sanctions?

Where were my colleagues on the other side of the aisle when my former boss and my friend, Senator TED CRUZ, forced a vote in the Senate on Nord Stream 2?

MIA. Partisan vote: We are not going to continue sanctions on Nord Stream 2. We are going to go along with Biden's decision to stop sanctions on Nord Stream 2.

Well, what do you think happens when you allow Putin and Russia to have a complete control of the energy supply of Europe?

What do you think is going to happen when you empower a thug and a dictator? What do you think is going to happen?

And right now today, we have a complete refusal by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, and frankly, too many colleagues on my side of the aisle, who refuse to say that we are, today, going to open up American energy, liquefied natural gas, oil, and produce it in this country to ensure that this man doesn't have the power to do what he is doing in Ukraine.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining?

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 7 minutes remaining.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, to go back a little bit in history, when President Putin invaded Crimea, President Obama refused to give legal assistance to Ukraine. It wasn't until President Trump came in that legal assistance was given to Ukraine.

And then to President Biden's credit, he ramped up that lethal aid as the threat got greater. And we have seen a great deal of lethal aid going to the Ukraine military. They are using it wisely. They are fighting a courageous war against a much, much greater military power.

But I agree with you, Congressman. We could be doing more. We could be sanctioning more, the source of Russia's money, their income, their revenue for waging this war. And we should be doing that. And that is just one of the areas, just one of them.

We should be doing more in banking. We should be doing more in trade, in blockades. But one of the ways that we can sanction them is by producing more natural gas, more fossil fuels here at home. We should be shipping liquefied natural gas to our allies in Western Europe to wean them off the reliance on energy from Russia.

Mr. ROY. How has the lawless authoritarian managed to regain his power? Well, I will tell you. Europe made themselves completely dependent on Russian energy.

And if you want a wake-up call and you want a warning shot in this country, Russia controls 40 percent of the EU's natural gas and 30 percent of its oil. Germany buys more gas from Russia than any other country.

They chose this. They chose fracking bans. They chose to shut down energy freedom in Western Europe. They chose to pursue a political climate ideology over national security and common-sense and energy for their citizenry. And now, they are beholden to Russia. And now, we have empowered Russia.

This stuff matters. Wars have been fought over these kinds of things, and we just empowered an autocrat to roll over the people of Ukraine because of the leadership of the Democrats on the other side of the aisle. And the people in this White House are pursuing climate ideology over national security; climate ideology over energy freedom; climate ideology over affordable gas; and the ability for the American people to thrive while empowering the people of Ukraine instead of a thug like Putin.

Mr. BUCK. In addition to that, it is time that our allies in NATO step up, spend the money they are supposed to spend on their military, on their defense structure, and move forward with us. It is not time for Americans to constantly fight wars in other countries when other countries haven't stepped up and recognized the dangers of a man like Vladimir Putin.

I don't know if it is the equivalent of our Secretary of Defense or Army Chief of Staff, or maybe the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, but the head of the German military mocked his own military, talking about how unprepared they would be in the event of a conflict with Russia.

Putin knows that. Putin has intelligence agents. And they have scoured the Western European countries. They know exactly what the strength is of those countries. They know what their willingness is to fight. And Putin has made a decision that he can take Ukraine with very little consequence. That is a serious issue.

Mr. ROY. You are exactly right. And tomorrow, we are going to be voting on a number of things. I got to be honest with you. I am sickened at what we are doing in this body. Instead of debating and voting here and having a serious discussion about how we should spend our assets to support Ukraine but be sensible about what we are doing in policies here, we are going to have a vote on banning Russian oil.

What good does it do to ban Russian oil if you are going to buy it from Venezuela or Iran?

□ 2150

Why don't we produce it here in the United States? It is cleaner and it is better. We should be doing that right here. Instead, we are not going to do that.

I am going to turn it back over because I think it is about time to close.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I just want to echo what he is saying and tell you that right now the dictator who is the most threatening to us, we are going to pull away from his energy and we are going to go with dictators who aren't quite as dangerous to us. That

isn't a strategy. That is just looking at the wrong end of a revolver.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I just want to remind everyone that 51 kids are trapped after an orphanage is bombed and the director is killed. No heat or electricity. Cold front coming. That is Putin's Ukraine. We should be helping these people.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his time tonight and it is always a pleasure to speak with him.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### THE MATH IS THE MATH IS THE MATH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) until 10 p.m.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, we have a bit of the tyranny of the clock, as you know, so I am going to try to do this somewhat rapidly.

There has been a lot of speechifying today. I am frustrated because I don't have an elegant or delicate way to say this, but people keep making crap up. Let's actually walk through some basic math so we understand something.

Does anyone here have any memory of last fall when a number of us were coming behind these microphones getting ready to talk about the winter that was coming. Do you remember the discussion of about how high the power bills, the heating bills were going to be? It is because fuel prices—hydrocarbon prices—didn't just go up because of the Russian invasion.

If you look at the charts, this began functionally when the left took power. It really began in 2018 and really took off when they had unified control. It didn't just happen. As a matter of fact, there is a number of charts out there and futures contracts that were basically saying the prices you are seeing today at the gas pump—they just showed up about 6 months early—that that is actually where we were going because consumption and supply wasn't keeping up because of what we have done to ourselves.

You see it already. Do you not remember last October and September crossing \$6 on natural gas? It was already coming at us and it was our own fault. How does this craziness happen? We keep getting folks coming behind the microphone and saying: It is because of the Keystone pipeline; it is a little bit. It is because of some of the drilling bans; it is a little bit.

It is mostly because over, particularly this last year, but also going back when the left took power after the 2018 election, they basically started to threaten capital markets. If you are a company and you invest in hydrocarbons, I think the SEC should look into you. If you're CalPERS or a pension fund and you invest in hydrocarbons, we are going to look down